

REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the thorough examination of the present application that is reflected in the Official Action of March 24, 2006. In response, the application has been placed in condition for allowance as follows:

First, a Terminal Disclaimer is being filed relative to the parent Patent No. 6,426,961 to overcome the nonstatutory double patenting rejection. The filing of this Terminal Disclaimer shall not be construed as an admission that subject matter claimed in the present application is fully disclosed in the parent application. The filing of this Terminal Disclaimer also shall not be construed as an admission that Applicant could have presented claims corresponding to those of the instant application in the parent application. Finally, the filing of the Terminal Disclaimer shall not be construed as an admission that the claims are unpatentable under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting or are obvious under 35 USC §103.

Moreover, the claims that have not been subject to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 have been placed in condition for allowance as follows: Claims 2 and 3 have been rewritten in independent form by incorporating the recitations of independent Claim 1 therein, and by cancelling Claim 1. Claims 4 and 5 have been amended to depend from Claim 2. New Claims 61 and 62 correspond to Claims 4 and 5, but depend from Claim 3. Claims 6-27, which were canceled in Applicant's earlier Preliminary Amendment of January 24, 2002, remain canceled. Claim 31 has been rewritten in independent form by incorporating the recitations of independent Claim 28 and dependent Claim 30 therein and Claims 28-30 have been canceled. Claim 32 has been amended to depend from Claim 31. Claim 33 has been rewritten in independent form by incorporating the recitations of independent Claim 28 therein. Claim 34 has been canceled. Claims 35-40 are in condition for allowance without any amendment. Claim 42 has been rewritten in independent form by incorporating the recitations of Claim 41 therein and by cancelling independent Claim 41. Claims 43-59 are in condition for allowance without further amendment. Finally, Claim 60 has been canceled.

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Accordingly, all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. Should any informal matters arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned by telephone at (919) 854-1400 to expedite allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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**CERTIFICATION OF TRANSMISSION
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted electronically to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on April 6, 2006.



Susan E. Freedman
Date of Signature: April 6, 2006